

THE ETHICAL CHURCH

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

1914

Including the Report for the First Seven Months of 1915

(Presented to the Annual Meeting of Members, October 25th, 1915.)

Dear Fellow-Members,

At a duly summoned meeting of the members in September, 1914, it was decided to change the beginning of our fiscal year from January 1st, making it from August 1st of each year. In order to accomplish this change it was decided that no Annual Meeting should be held in January, 1915, but that instead it should take place in October of this year. It was also decided that the Accounts should not be closed on December 31st, 1914, but should be carried on to July 31st, 1915. These decisions, due to the desire to make our fiscal year terminate with our working year, explain the appearance of this Report now and the summoning of members to an Annual Meeting for the 25th of October. It is hoped that every member of the Church who can will attend at eight o'clock on Monday evening next.

Members should here be reminded that also in the autumn of 1914, at a regularly summoned meeting, the name of our organisation was changed from the West London Ethical Society to the Ethical Church. In the same series of Special General Meetings of the Society, eighteen new "Principles" and a number of "Methods" were adopted. Copies of these can be obtained by members at the Church after the Services for the price of one penny. These copies of Principles are not included in this Report nor sent out to the members gratis, because of the expense. They appeared, however, in the *Ethical World* at the time, and due notification of all meetings was given to members.

In accordance with the decisions of the Committee, in this Report we are deviating from the custom which has hitherto prevailed of including in our Annual Report a list of the names of members, their addresses, and the amounts of money they have subscribed or donated during the year. The only motive for this omission is to save the cost of some 11 pages of printing. But on account of the omission the Committee wishes to announce to all persons belonging to the Church that they can at any time have access to the list of members and also to the books of the Church.

The Committee wishes hereby to express to Mr. A. C. F. Morgan, who, for many years, has been our most efficient and untiring Honorary Treasurer, the thanks of all members for his services, which on account of other duties he finds himself unable longer to fulfil. At the same time, the Committee is glad of the opportunity to express to Mr. F. H. Hubbard its thanks for his kindness in volunteering to take over, as Honorary Assistant Financial Secretary, the financial business of the

Church, and for completing the adjoining Balance Sheet, in the doing of which work Mr. Morgan very kindly assisted up to the end of June of this year.

Last autumn, on account of the war, the Wednesday evening services after October were discontinued; nor were the Tuesday afternoon and Friday evening services resumed. We have recently, therefore, been holding only the Sunday morning and evening meetings; likewise all our weekly classes and courses of lectures are now discontinued. It may also be decided, on account of the darkness of the streets and the danger of air raids even in the early evening, to hold no evening services during the month of November. Should the same conditions hold, these services may not be resumed throughout the winter.

The Balance Sheet is self-explanatory as to the actual state of our finances. As compared with former years our present position is by no means discouraging. The Committee, however, has felt justified in anticipating a continuance of the financial embarrassment of the country, and it has, therefore, notified the members of the Choir that, after the first of December of this year, their services must be dispensed with. We must make this great sacrifice, as our remaining solvent is far more important than the beauty or even the uplifting power of our formal worship. We take this occasion to express our cordial thanks to the professional singers of our Choir, who have entered heartily into the spirit and significance of our services. By dispensing with their singing we shall be able to save £120 a year. The Committee has also felt called upon, in anticipation of financial stress, to dispense with the paid services of all clerical assistants, and to find volunteer workers who will do this work. By these means the sum of £52 a year can be saved, but the Committee urgently presses home to the attention of the members the fact that by these economies we have reached almost the limit of possible saving. It is therefore hoped that every member will do his utmost to pay the customary amount of his subscription, and to give whatever donation he can for the current year. It will be seen that we closed the month of July with a deficit of some £138, and our first duty is to the persons to whom we owe this money.

The only additional line of economy was to reduce the fees for our Sunday lecturers, who have recently been receiving two guineas in most cases. The Committee wishes here to express its gratitude to the President of the Society for volunteering to speak without any fee, and to Dr. Saleeby and Mr. S. K. Ratcliffe for their readiness to speak as often as they can at half the customary fee.

The attendance at the services during the period of the war, which this Report covers, has been up to the average, and, on many occasions, to the full seating capacity of our Church. We have been most fortunate in securing as speakers some of the most distinguished men in the country. For economy's sake we do not follow our earlier practice of printing in the Report the list of the lecturers and their subjects throughout the period, but we would refer any members who are interested to the issues of the *Ethical World* for the last year and a half.

ALFRED CLOAKE, *Hon. Sec.*

ETHICAL CHURCH,
QUEEN'S ROAD, W,
October 19th, 1915.

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT for 19 MONTHS ending July 31st, 1915.

Dr.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Lectures ... ..	...	236	5 0	Subscriptions ... ..	...	...	470 15 0
Music ... ..	...	213	10 4	Collections... ..	...	...	406 11 6
Organ and Piano Tuning	...	16	10 8	Offertory Boxes ... ..	...	...	1 17 6
Social Worship, Vol. II.	...	12	10 0	Music Fund ... ..	...	...	127 18 3
Light and Heat ... ..	...	89	9 11	Donations—			
Caretaker ... ..	...	58	5 0	General ... ..	...	...	19 12 10
Salaries ... ..	...	22	2 6	Anniversary Appeal ... ..	...	...	26 19 3
Advertising ... ..	...	83	4 1	Lectures ... ..	...	...	2 2 0
Printing ... ..	...	78	2 9	Classes ... ..	...	...	14 5 1
Stationery ... ..	...	9	1 8	Letting ... ..	...	...	5 2 0
Postage ... ..	...	33	4 2	Use of Organ and Piano... ..	...	...	1 0 0
Telephone ... ..	...	14	11 1	Entertainments ... ..	...	...	3 13 2
Bank Charges ... ..	...	1	1 6	Suppers ... ..	...	...	2 3 2
Sundries ... ..	...	24	13 2	Wedding Fees ... ..	...	...	3 10 0
Refreshments ... ..	...	5	7 5	Allowance for Organ Repairs ... ..	...	...	0 14 0
Ground Rent ... ..	...	12	13 1	Sale of Pamphlets ... ..	...	...	2 1 11
Rates and Taxes ... ..	...	9	19 10	Bookstall—			
Insurance ... ..	...	12	16 0	Receipts ... ..	...	19 16 8	
Repairs ... ..	...	11	5 6	Cash in hand ... ..	...	4 17 7	
The "Ethical World" ... ..	...	101	4 6				
Ethical Preachers' Guild ... ..	...	65	0 0			24 14 3	
Union of Ethical Societies	...	17	4 0	Deficit Account ... ..	...	4 15 0	
				Balance ... ..	...	...	19 19 3
						...	19 17 3

£1,128 2 2

£1,128 2 2

BALANCE SHEET for 19 MONTHS ending July 31st, 1915.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance of Loan ...	...	57 4 0	Cash at Bank ...	...	16 5 1
Lecturers for July ...	...	14 14 0	Petty Cash ...	...	2 5 0
Social Worship, Vol. II., Balance	...	5 12 10	Supper Plant ...	...	15 3 8
Printing ...	...	68 1 4	Bookstall Stock and Fixtures	...	6 15 10
The Ethical World ...	...	11 6 9	Bookstall Cash ...	...	4 17 7
Organ Repairs ...	...	18 8 0	Proportion of Rates ...	...	0 10 8
Proportion of Ground Rent	...	2 9 5	" Insurance ...	...	4 3 4
Proportion of Heat and Light	...	6 14 7	Ground Rent due to Church	...	5 5 0
Other Accounts ...	...	9 6 4	Deficit from Balance Sheet at 31st	...	
			Dec., 1913 ...	178 2 4	
			Deficit from Profit and Loss a/c	...	
			at 31st July, 1915 ...	19 17 3	
				<hr/>	
				197 19 7	
			Less Supper Plant valuation at date ...	15 3 8	
			Church Fund Transferred	44 4 10	
				<hr/>	
			Balance deficit ...	59 8 6	
				...	138 11 1
				<hr/>	
				£193 17 3	

I have examined the foregoing Statements of Account and certify that they are correct, and that all vouchers have been produced to me.

10th October, 1915.
G. FAREWELL JONES, *Hon. Auditor*,
Lennox House, Norfolk Street, W.C.